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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/603,471	06/25/2003	Larry Gause	MSDI-259/PC757.00	3218
52196	7590	06/16/2009	EXAMINER	
MEDTRONIC			RAMANA, ANURADHA	
Attn: Noreen Johnson - IP Legal Department				
2600 Sofamor Danek Drive			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
MEMPHIS, TN 38132			3775	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			06/16/2009	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review

Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent under Reexamination	
10/603,471	GAUSE ET AL.	
Anu Ramana	Art Unit 3775	

This is in response to the Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review filed 9 April 2009.

1. **Improper Request** – The Request is improper and a conference will not be held for the following reason(s):

- The Notice of Appeal has not been filed concurrent with the Pre-Appeal Brief Request.
- The request does not include reasons why a review is appropriate.
- A proposed amendment is included with the Pre-Appeal Brief request.
- Other: _____

The time period for filing a response continues to run from the receipt date of the Notice of Appeal or from the mail date of the last Office communication, if no Notice of Appeal has been received.

2. **Proceed to Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences** – A Pre-Appeal Brief conference has been held. The application remains under appeal because there is at least one actual issue for appeal. Applicant is required to submit an appeal brief in accordance with 37 CFR 41.37. The time period for filing an appeal brief will be reset to be one month from mailing this decision, or the balance of the two-month time period running from the receipt of the notice of appeal, whichever is greater. Further, the time period for filing of the appeal brief is extendible under 37 CFR 1.136 based upon the mail date of this decision or the receipt date of the notice of appeal, as applicable.

The panel has determined the status of the claim(s) is as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____.

Claim(s) objected to: _____.

Claim(s) rejected: 1,4,11-38,59-62,81-82,87 and 89-93.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

3. **Allowable application** – A conference has been held. The rejection is withdrawn and a Notice of Allowance will be mailed. Prosecution on the merits remains closed. No further action is required by applicant at this time.

4. **Reopen Prosecution** – A conference has been held. The rejection is withdrawn and a new Office action will be mailed. No further action is required by applicant at this time.

All participants:

(1) Thomas C. Barrett.

(3) Anu Ramana.

(2) Stephen P. Garbe.

(4) _____.

/Thomas C. Barrett/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 3775

/Stephen Garbe/
TC 3700 RQAS

/Anu Ramana/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3775